

"Meniolagamika" which means "a friendly or pleasant village."

Mineola has been the proud home of Nassau County's government since 1900, when New York Governor Theodore Roosevelt laid the corner stone of the county courthouse on the corners of Old Country Road and Franklin Avenue.

Since its incorporation, Mineola has been a center of culture and commerce for people from all of Long Island throughout its history. Today, Mineola is home to more than 20,000 residents, a thriving local economy and a strong sense of history and community.

Mineola has changed since my family arrived, but progress hasn't changed the spirit of its people. The fact that so many who grew up in Mineola end up raising their own children there is a testament to what a special place my hometown is.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the entire House join me in congratulating the Village of Mineola on its first 100 years of incorporation. Happy Birthday, Mineola.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD W. POMBO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2006

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote today on the House floor. I take my responsibility to vote very seriously.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Rollcall No. 454.

RECOGNIZING HAYWOOD HARRIS AND GUS MANNING FOR THEIR DEDICATION TO TENNESSEE FOOTBALL

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2006

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, Haywood Harris and Gus Manning, two longtime friends of mine, host what is now the longest-running continuous sports radio program in America.

Their program is called "The Locker Room" and gives a scouting report on Tennessee's football opponent and a rundown of the day's other Southeastern Conference football games.

"The Locker Room" has been on the air since 1961, and Gus and Haywood now have a combined 100 years covering Tennessee football.

Both men are members of the Tennessee Sports Writers Hall of Fame. Haywood Harris and Gus Manning are two of the most popular, most respected men in Tennessee.

I would like to call to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD the story about "The Locker Room" that was published in the Knoxville News Sentinel on August 29.

STILL TALKING UP VOLS

(By Mike Strange)

A time traveler from the 1960s would be astounded at the changes in college football.

The size and speed of the players, not to mention their ethnicity. Their Star Wars-

like equipment. (I know, "Star What?" our traveler would ask).

The doubledecker, bowled-in stadiums with luxury boxes. And let's not even get started with the media blitz.

How comforted, then, our traveler would be to turn on the radio a couple of hours before kickoff in Knoxville and find two familiar friends.

The world around it may have exploded, but "The Locker Room" has stayed virtually the same for all of its 45 years.

While Andy, Barney and Aunt Bee live on in ageless, endless black-and-white reruns, Gus Manning and Haywood Harris remain real-life icons of Tennessee football.

Their game-day radio show "The Locker Room" is billed (by them) as the longest-running continuous sports radio program in America.

"And who's to dispute it?" Harris said.

The format hasn't deviated noticeably since it first aired in 1961. Manning and Harris give a scouting report on Tennessee opponent. The opponent's publicity director is always the guest. Manning reviews the day's SEC games.

Manning, 83, has been at UT since 1951, when he was hired by General Robert Neyland to handle publicity. In 1961, Manning recruited Harris to the publicity office. Ever since, they've been radio partners, co-authors and walking encyclopedias of Tennessee football.

Manning had a streak of attending 608 consecutive UT football games until he slipped on some ice en route to the 2003 Kentucky game and had to go back home.

He and Harris, who allegedly retired in 2000 but still works the press box on game day, were recently among the initial class of inductees to the Tennessee Sports Writers Association Hall of Fame.

Manning already had a radio show when the idea of "The Locker Room" was born. Harris says they were "talked into it" by the station WROL. After a couple of years, it switched over to WIVK and has stayed there ever since.

"We've got good listenership partially because we've got a captive audience," Harris said.

Focusing on the opponent makes sense. By Saturday, everything that could possibly be said about the Vols has long since been run into the ground. Never has a visiting publicist refused to do the show. Of course they haven't. Not even Osama bin Laden would turn down Gus and Haywood.

"They know who their studs are," Manning said. "We tell (the audience) what to look for and then it actually happens."

The dean of guests is Claude Felton of Georgia.

"Two great things have happened in my career," said Felton. "Georgia winning the national championship in 1980 and being invited to be on 'The Locker Room'."

The show is actually taped on Thursday afternoon at WIVK. However, Manning, Harris and their guests maintain the illusion that broadcast is coming live on Saturday from the actual locker room.

"I got 'em one year," said Kentucky's Tony Neely. "I said, 'Hey, Gus, you all have done a great job remodeling the locker room. New paneling, new paint, it smells great.'"

"I went on and on about how nice it was and they finally started laughing. It was hard to get back on track."

Manning snorts at the notion that the show requires any preparation. But don't believe him.

Harris lines up all the guests long before the opening kickoff. And Manning comes armed with stats.

"He asks some very good questions," Harris said.

Here's a question. Not even these venerable hosts can go on forever. Does "The Locker Room" have a long-range future?

"There's a lot of people would like to take it over," said Harris, "but Gus and I won't give 'em a chance 'til we have to."

That's comforting to hear. So hear them while you can.

CONGRATULATING DONALD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Donald Elementary School located in Lewisville for being named a No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School of 2006. Only 26 schools in Texas will receive this award certificate.

The No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon Schools program recognizes schools that make significant progress in closing the achievement gap or whose students achieve at very high levels. Schools must make adequate yearly progress in reading, language arts and mathematics.

The No Child Left Behind Act is the bipartisan landmark education reform law designed to change the culture of America's schools by closing the achievement gap, offering more flexibility to States, giving parents more information and options and teaching students based on what works. Under the law's strong accountability provisions, States must describe how they will close the achievement gap and make sure all students, including those with disabilities, achieve academically.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Donald Elementary School for receiving this award. This school's contribution and services should serve as inspiration to us all.

TRIBUTE TO LCPL RENE MARTINEZ

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2006

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of LCpl Rene Martinez, who was killed in action fighting enemy forces in Iraq on September 24, and extend my deepest condolences to his family for their loss. You have this Nation's most sincere appreciation for your son.

As a U.S. Marine, LCpl Martinez represented the best our Nation has to offer. He served with great distinction in the 2nd Marine Division. According to a spokesman for his unit he was a "well decorated Marine for his age" having earned medals for combat action, overseas deployment and global terrorism service.

The U.S. Marine Corps motto is *semper fidelis*—"ever faithful." LCpl Rene Martinez exemplified this commitment. He was faithful to God, country, family and the Corps. He gave the ultimate sacrifice for this great Nation so that his family and country could live in freedom. All that we hold dear only exists thanks